

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Madam Speaker, 12 terrorists from Puerto Rico who are responsible for 130 bombings in America, killing 6 Americans and wounding many more have been pardoned by the President. Now, if that is not enough to get away with murder, check this out: to get the pardon, the terrorists had to promise to give up violence. Unbelievable, Madam Speaker.

A whole new policy on terrorism in America. If terrorists apologize, they are set free. Beam me up, Madam Speaker.

An America that pardons terrorists is an America that invites more terrorism. I yield back the pain and suffering of their victims and their families.

#### DEMOCRATS DO NOT TRUST AMERICANS TO SPEND THEIR OWN MONEY THE RIGHT WAY

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Madam Speaker, many Democrats have stated that tax cuts would be risky. Well, of course they would. They believe the average Americans, to quote the President, might not spend it right.

Is this not the perfect expression of a liberal mindset? They really do believe that money that people earn does not really belong to them. They do not trust people to spend it right, whatever that means. After all, we all know that Washington knows best. It seems clear to me that Democrats do not quite agree with the proposition that rich or poor the money people earn belongs to them, not the Government.

In fact, liberals imply that any time the Government cuts taxes, it is doing everyone a favor, as if giving someone something. It is not giving anyone anything. It is merely taking less from what is already yours.

So every time we hear a Democrat call a Republican tax relief package risky, just remember why they are doing so.

#### COULD IT BE THE REAL REASON REPUBLICANS ARE DROPPING THE TAX BILL IS THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE ALREADY VETOED IT?

(Mr. DOGGETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DOGGETT. Madam Speaker, surely one of the most bizarre announcements of this do-little Congress was the declaration yesterday by the Republican leadership that there will be no tax bill this year, because there simply will not be enough time to consider the matter after the President vetoes the Republican tax giveaway. This is the same Republican leadership, of course, that has delayed now over a

month in sending the tax bill to the President so that it can be vetoed, as they knew he would do all along.

Could it be that the real reason that they are dropping the tax bill is that the American people have already vetoed it?

They have vetoed the idea of borrowing from a still rising national debt to give more to those who have a PAC and a lobbyist here in Washington for the hundreds of billions of dollars of special interest tax provisions in this measure. They have vetoed the idea of taking from Social Security and Medicare to give a tax break to those at the top when most Americans will get pennies out of this tax proposal.

I believe the American people have vetoed this bad idea, and perhaps that is the real reason that even the Republican leadership, that has done so little this year, is giving up on the tax cut.

#### PARDON FOR TERRORISTS

(Mr. ROYCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROYCE. Madam Speaker, I could not believe my eyes when I read the newspaper this morning that President Clinton had given clemency to 12 imprisoned members of the Puerto Rican terrorist organization, the FALN.

U.S. policy to terrorists has always been very consistent; it has always been very clear. We must make no concessions to terrorists. That has been the policy, not to pardon terrorists.

We should be sending a strong message that terrorism would not be tolerated. As my friend, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT), has pointed out, the FALN was responsible for 130 bombings in the United States that killed six people, at least; injured scores of other Americans; three police officers were maimed for life; two were blinded; one lost a leg while trying to diffuse one of the bombs that the FALN planted in 1982.

What does the President have to say to these victims and their families? What does Vice President GORE have to say about releasing these law breakers? All 12 terrorists given clemency were convicted on charges of seditious conspiracy and possession of weapons and possession of explosives. They belong in prison.

#### THE KIDNAPPINGS, KILLINGS AND FORCED EVACUATIONS IN EAST TIMOR ABSOLUTELY SHOULD NOT BE HAPPENING

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, I too am deeply disturbed by the horrifying human rights violations currently taking place in Indonesia in East Timor. The kidnappings, the killings, the forced evacuations absolutely should

not be happening. The horrific beheadings, with severed human heads being paraded around on sticks, is barbaric.

The government of Indonesia imposed martial law on the country to control the violence that erupted after the East Timorese voted for independence. Unfortunately, reliable reports suggest that Indonesian military officials are actually involved in orchestrating the unrest and violence that is occurring right now.

Madam Speaker, I call on President Habibie and the other Indonesian officials to accept the results of the referendum, get control of their military and bring an immediate end to the horrifying bloodshed and violence that is terrorizing the people.

#### RESPONSIBLE TAX CUTS

(Mr. GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, only in this Congress, with a small Republican majority, would we experience the following: cuts in housing funds, cuts in science and space funds, cuts in education funds, no planning to safeguard Medicare for the future growth, almost \$6 billion in national debt that is owed from the last 50 years, and the major issue we are talking about for the next few weeks is whether we want a tax cut.

Let us be clear about the debate. I would like to have a tax cut, too, just like most Americans, but the biggest concern we have is making sure Social Security is there, Medicare is there, and that we also pay down the national debt.

We cannot ignore those issues and only talk about a tax cut. The Republican plan for tax cuts is financially irresponsible. It only passed the House by a few votes and now they are going to use it for the next month to talk about how bad the President is. Let us put that aside and get on about our business of legislating.

During the August recess, I talked to hundreds of constituents in my district in Houston, like people did all over the country, and they talked about the need to safeguard Social Security, Medicare, and pay down that debt.

#### ORGAN DONATION IS AS SIMPLE AS FILLING OUT A DONOR CARD

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, we know that life is short, and the 60,000 patients who are currently on a waiting list to get organs know just how precious time is.

Sadly enough, only 20,000 people this year will receive organ transplants, and today nine people will lose their lives because a match was not found.

As the waiting list for organs continues to grow, so does the need for

organ procurement. Organ donation is as simple as filling out a donor card and by just one person's donation as many as 50 people may benefit through transplantation.

It is important that we as Members of Congress raise awareness on the importance of organ and tissue donations to increase donors across our districts and throughout our land. There is no greater gift than the gift of life. We must encourage this giving and work to leave a lasting legacy to prevent the needless and tragic deaths of thousands of Americans each year.

#### VOTE NO ON THE D.C. CONFERENCE REPORT

(Ms. NORTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, in one of the great ironies of this session, I am forced to ask for a no vote on the D.C. conference report that will come before us later today. My appropriation is actually a local budget with the old federal payment now abolished. Though the budget comes balanced, replete with tax cuts and a surplus, it has proved needlessly contentious here, dragging Members into local matters that most want to avoid as somebody else's business about which Members necessarily know little.

The new Mayor, revitalized City Council and I cannot live with backdoor approaches to weakened self-government. Take it straight from D.C. itself. We all ask for a no vote on the D.C. conference report.

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#### WE MUST PROVIDE REAL, MEANINGFUL, AND REASONABLE TAX RELIEF FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

(Mr. KNOLLENBERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, Republicans in the House of Representatives are keeping their word to the American people. As a member of the Committee on Appropriations, I am very proud of the work that the committee has done and led by the gentleman from Florida who has crafted bills that will keep the agreement and maintain the budget caps that we promised back in 1997.

On the other side, the flip side, the President's budget proposal busts the budget spending by some 42 billion over our agreed upon limit. How does he get away with that my colleagues ask? By using gimmicks, by assuming new taxes on the American people knowing full well that the Republican Congress would never agree to those tax hikes.

Now we understand that a supplemental spending plan is coming our way from the White House. This emer-

gency spending would add up to 12 billion more.

Madam Speaker, this illustrates our point about why we must provide meaningful tax relief to the American people. If we do not give the American people back their money, it is sure to be spent by the big government crowd here in Washington, D.C. That would be a huge disservice to the people who pay our bills, the American taxpayer.

#### STAND UP AND SAY SOMETHING ABOUT THE MASSACRES GOING ON IN EAST TIMOR

(Mr. CAPUANO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CAPUANO. Madam Speaker, 200,000 refugees, 3,000 people per hour leaving their homes and their country. Martial law imposed, paramilitary people roaming the countryside. Sound familiar? Four and a half months ago we did this in Kosovo. I thought the problem then was that this House did not have anything to say about it until we already had troops on the ground. I think we need to stand up now and say something about the massacres that are going on in East Timor.

One way or the other I happen to think that we need to do something. I think America stands for democracy; I think we need to stand up. That is why today's resolution being filed already has 20 cosponsors. It was only drafted yesterday in bipartisan support, and I ask every Member to look at that resolution and to join us to have this Congress stand up before, before we commit troops either ourselves or the United Nations or SEATO or someone else.

Stand up and be counted. Do our job.

#### LIBERALS HATE THE IDEA OF ALLOWING AMERICANS TO KEEP MORE OF THEIR OWN MONEY

(Mr. WELDON of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Madam Speaker, the Washington Post editorial page has editorialized yet again against the Republican tax cut proposals. Hardly a week goes by without the Washington Post and other liberal publications warning against the idea of letting Americans keep more of their hard-earned money. To me that is a pretty good indication that it is exactly what we need to do.

Of course, the same crowd that called Ronald Reagan's tax cuts dangerous, foolish, and irresponsible are now singing the same tune today. They are the same people who just 2 years ago said that it was impossible to cut taxes and balance the budget at the same time. And, of course, they are the same crowd that could not praise President Clinton enough for raising taxes by a record amount.

See, Madam Speaker, some people really do not believe that people can spend their own money better than Washington can, and they really hate the idea that people should be able to keep more of the fruits of their hard-earned labor and reap the benefits of saving and sacrificing and realizing their dreams, and of course they are against tax cuts.

#### GOP TAX CUT SELLS CHILDREN SHORT

(Mr. CROWLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CROWLEY. Madam Speaker, over the August recess, the message from America was clear:

We do not want the GOP tax break.

What is realized, the GOP plan provides little tax relief for middle- and lower-income Americans, the ones who need it the most. It does nothing to continue our efforts to reduce the Federal debt. It does nothing to strengthen Social Security or Medicare, and it does nothing, it does nothing to help the dire conditions of our schools, the infrastructure of our schools in the United States. Republicans offer only a small arbitrage provision in the recently passed tax bill as their aid for our beleaguered school system. This initiative would provide minimal tax benefits to school districts. These benefits can actually delay school construction for more than 2 years.

We can fix our highways; we can rebuild our bridges. Why do we sit by and do nothing for the infrastructure that houses our Nation's greatest asset, our children? There are many chilling accounts of near fatal accidents at schools in New York, and I fear the day that conditions at our schools deteriorate to the point where accidents are simply unavoidable.

I know that providing tax relief to our schools for construction assistance is not only the right thing to do as a Congressman, but the right thing to do as a new parent and as an American.

#### THE REPUBLICAN PLAN IS FOR ALL AMERICANS, NOT JUST THE RICH

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CHABOT. Madam Speaker, Congressional Budget Office projects approximately \$3 trillion in budget surpluses over the next 10 years. The Republican plan would take \$2 trillion of that money and put it in the Social Security and Medicare lockbox. That means that \$2 trillion goes towards retirement security for those two important programs. It also reduces the debt by \$2 trillion. The remaining \$1 trillion would be returned to the taxpayers, all taxpayers.

Now my liberal friends in the House here keep saying it is tax cuts for the rich, tax cuts for the rich. It is just not true. It is for all Americans.